

CHINA MAIL

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Price 10 cts.

RENT CONTROL PROCLAMATION Tenancy Tribunals And Standard Of 1941 Protection For Sub-Tenants

RENT CONTROL IN THE COLONY IS ESTABLISHED BY PROCLAMATION PUBLISHED YESTERDAY AFTERNOON. THE STANDARD RATE IS ESTABLISHED AS THAT PAID PRIOR TO DECEMBER 1941. SUB-TENANCIES ARE COVERED BY THE PROCLAMATION. THE AMOUNT OF PROFIT PERMITTED TO A PRINCIPAL TENANT IS RESTRICTED TO TWENTY PER CENT.

TENANCY TRIBUNALS ARE TO BE SET UP, THREE IN HONG KONG AND TWO IN KOWLOON. THEY MAY VARY THE STANDARD RENTS AT THEIR DISCRETION. THEY MAY ALSO FIX RENTS IN THE CASE OF NEW TENANCIES. THEY MAY APPOINT THE RENT TO BE PAID UNDER A SUB-TENANCY.

The Tenancy Tribunals also have the power of eviction. They may evict any person who does not claim bona fide possession under a landlord or his predecessor in title. They may evict a tenant who became the occupier of premises during the Japanese occupation, and whose holding has not been acquired in since the establishment of the British Military Administration. They may order eviction where premises are used for immoral purposes or where rent is in arrears for more than thirty days.

Right of appeal to the Standing Military Court is conceded to both landlord and tenant. Appeal must be lodged within 7 days of a Tribunal order or decision.

PUNISHABLE OFFENCES.

It is an offence to receive or demand whether in money or kind, more than the rent lawfully due, to make a false return, to wilfully mislead a Tribunal, to fail to comply with an order or decision to evade or fail to comply with the provisions of the Proclamation, and to resist or obstruct any bailiff in the performance of his duty.

Penalty for infringements is six months imprisonment or a fine of \$5,000 or both.

The Proclamation does not apply to the New Territories, except New Kowloon.

URGENT NECESSITY

An official explanation of the Proclamation states:

It is a matter of urgent necessity that some legislation should be created immediately to clarify and regulate the position regarding landlords and tenants in Hongkong, and that in the absence of civil courts some scheme should be evolved which links any Tribunal set up with Military Courts without over-burdening the latter.

Due to the over-populated state of Hongkong prior to the Japanese occupation, it was deemed necessary that some legislation which restricted the normal rights of landlords to evict their tenants.

This legislation embodied in an Ordinance known as "The Prevention of Eviction Consolidation and Amendment Ordinance of 1939" has now expired but the situation regarding landlords and tenants has not adjusted itself by flux of time but has, in fact now become a more serious problem than it has ever been before.

CHANGED CONDITIONS

During the Japanese occupation a great number of premises fell into disuse either through looting or because of the absence of persons in authority to look after the buildings.

On the other hand, vacant premises were occupied by persons without permission from the landlord who pending the restoration of civil courts have no effective means of evicting them.

In many cases, the landlords charged and collected a rental in Yen which depreciated and at the time of the Japanese surrender in August, 1945, premises were being let at uncommensurate rentals.

After the Currency Proclamation rents should have been converted into Hongkong currency but in many cases this led to disputes between landlord and tenant as to what the new rent in dollars should be. Meanwhile, some rents were raised to a level much higher than they ever were before. Tenants are refusing to pay any rent at all until some official statement or legislation is made on the subject and people never recognized as certain premises still in possession of tenants.

STABILISING RENTALS

This Proclamation aimed at stabilising rentals at the earliest possible moment and at the same time...

possible moment leaving a Committee to be appointed by the Commander-in-Chief to report upon what other powers should be given to the Tenancy Tribunals constituted and generally upon the practical working of the Proclamation. Wide powers are taken to make regulations so as to be able to give effect to such recommendations.

(Continued on Page 4)

Remarkable Verdict

The Inter-American Juridical Commission, meeting in Rio de Janeiro, has reached the remarkable conclusion that the flying bomb is an unlawful weapon whereas the atomic bomb is "lawful."

This brilliant distinction was discovered after a certain Professor Charles Fenwick proved to the satisfaction of delegates that flying bomb blast could not be directed.

In fairness, it should be added that American scientists are somewhat less sanguine.

In fact they are continuing to kick up such a row that politicians and lawyers may be unable to go on making fools of themselves.

"Here we are," says Lord Chervell, "on the surface of a minor plane circling round a second-rate star in one of half a million galaxies."

"After that I don't even care if Mr. Brendan Bracken is elected for Bournemouth!"—*Reuter.*

UNEASINESS IN BRITAIN

London, Oct. 24.

Uneasiness about the future of the United Nations' Organisation is thought in well-informed quarters in London to be responsible for the surprise decision of Mr. Philip Noel Baker, British Minister of State, to fly from Quebec to Washington to-day, writes *Reuter's* Diplomatic Correspondent.

It is expected that he will have some very serious conversations with the Secretary of State, Mr. James Byrnes, and other United States leaders about the Soviet attitude towards international co-operation.—*Reuter.*

WANNA GO HOME

Hankow, Oct. 24.

The American Air Force personnel at present here engaged in the moving of Chinese Central Government troops into North China want to go home.

The question on the lips of virtually every man is "What are we doing meddling in the national affairs of China?"—*Associated Press.*

AMERICAN ARMY MEN TRIED

New York, Oct. 24.

Three American soldiers from the China-Burma theatre, including one air force major, were convicted to-day of bribery, conspiracy and fraud against the United States army.—*Associated Press.*

Washington, Oct. 24.

Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King to-day lined up with the opposition to the proposal for the Army-Navy merger, which he said he regarded as a backward step and an attempt at regimenting military thinking.—*Associated Press.*

Navy's Gifts To China

London, Oct. 24.

Britain is making a gift of a 7,000-ton cruiser, a destroyer, a submarine and eight escort vessels to China.

Officers and men sent from China will be given training for twelve months by the Royal Navy before taking the ships out to China.—*Reuter.*

PEIPING AS CAPITAL?

CHUNGKING, OCT. 24.

ALTHOUGH GENERAL ALISSI SPECIFICALLY STATED THAT THE CAPITAL OF CHINA WILL BE RE-ESTABLISHED AT NANKING, MOST CHINESE QUARTERS IN CHUNGKING ARE HOPEFUL THAT THE GOVERNMENT SEAT WILL BE EVENTUALLY TRANSFERRED TO PEIPING.

Final discussion on this point, they believe, will eventually be in the hands of the National Assembly originally scheduled to meet next month but was postponed during the recent untidy talks at Chungking, the date of which has yet to be determined.

Most circles here—foreign as well as Chinese—would prefer Peiping to be the capital, although it would be contingent, among other things, upon the outcome of the present struggle between the Central Government and the Communists for supremacy in North China.—*Associated Press.*

TWO WOMEN REPRIEVED

Frankfurt, Oct. 24.

The death sentences imposed on two women by the United States Military Tribunal, for inciting and leading to death a German mob in 1944, have been commuted to thirty years imprisonment by Lieut-General Geoffrey Keyes, Commander of the United States 7th Army in a review of the findings. The five men convicted with them remain under sentence of death.—*Associated Press.*

BERTRAND RUSSELL PROTESTS

London, Oct. 24.

The British philosopher and mathematician Bertrand Russell, asserted that Britain's allies are making "apparently deliberate attempts to exterminate millions of Germans" through mass deportations, naming specifically only Russia and Poland.

The Allied policy, Russell charged, in Eastern Europe was to kill Germans not by gas but by depriving their homes of food, leaving them to die by slow agonizing starvation.—*Associated Press.*

SAIGON BOMB

London, Oct. 23.

Michael MacDonagh, *Reuter's* Special Correspondent in Saigon, cables: "A bomb was thrown into the Government Information Bureau in Saigon to-day, a few minutes after allied war correspondents had entered the building for a press conference with the French Authorities."

One Frenchman was slightly injured.—*Reuter.*

HUNGARIAN ELECTION

Budapest, Oct. 24.

The Four-Power Council to-day issued a joint communiqué confirming the agreement reached to hold elections on November 4th, with seven parties in the field.

It appears that a new coalition government with Zoltan Tildy as Premier will be formed before the week-end.—*Associated Press.*

San Francisco, Oct. 24.

The bus strike of seven Western States ended yesterday as drivers who granted the wage increase demanded.—*Associated Press.*

U. S. Surplus In Philippines

WASHINGTON, OCT. 24.

URGENT NEED FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION ON THE DISPOSAL OF UNITED STATES ARMY SURPLUS IN THE PHILIPPINES WAS STRESSED IN A TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE BY BRIGADIER-GENERAL ALBERT J. BROWNING.

General Browning urged the approval of the Bill to present a hundred-million dollars worth of surplus property to the Filipinos for rehabilitation.

The surplus includes warehouses, small boats, dockage equipment and coal supplies.

Lieut. John O'Hara, of the U.S. Navy, said that the New England fishing industry and labour representatives offered to accept twenty-five Filipinos and pay them a living wage for one year while learning deep-sea fishing.—*Associated Press.*

Liner Held Up

Liverpool, Oct. 23.

The 26,000 ton liner *Georgic*, bringing troops and Indian students to Britain from India, is to-day held up outside Liverpool as a result of a strong gale.

The liner may dock in early evening if the seas subside, but it is more likely to remain just outside Liverpool until to-morrow.—*Reuter.*

Halifax, Oct. 24.

Premier August McDonald's Liberal Government won an overwhelming victory at Nova Scotia's general election yesterday gaining twenty-eight out of thirty seats.—*Associated Press.*

Monty On El Alamein

LONDON, OCT. 24.

FIELD MARSHAL SIR BERNARD MONTGOMERY SAID TO-NIGHT THAT A MILITARY RUSE, COMBINED WITH HEAVY STRIKING POWER, ENABLED HIS EIGHTH ARMY TO OVERWHELM THE GERMANS AT THE BATTLE OF EL ALAMEIN, WHICH BROKE THE GERMAN THREAT TO EGYPT.

HE SPOKE AT A DINNER COMMEMORATING THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE HISTORIC BATTLE THAT TURNED THE TIDE IN NORTH AFRICA.

He said that with "super-charge" strategy he threw a series of strong attacks in the north where the enemy believed it was the British intention to break through.

"A break-through would have been very costly for the enemy," said Montgomery, "and he concentrated all his German troops in the north to defeat it."

The greater portion of the south was held by the Italians, "exactly as we wanted," he added, "while only the flank was German." I pulled the armoured divisions into reserve, rested and resupplied them. We delivered one final and tremendous blow partly against the German flank and partly on the Italian.

"The Germans were overwhelmed; the Italians broke and the victory was won."—*Associated Press.*

U.S. ARMY CUTS

Washington, Oct. 24.

The War Department has announced that U.S. army forces abroad, including troops in the occupied areas of Germany and Japan, will be reduced to 872,000 men by July, 1946.

By that time, says the War Department, 3,750,000 U.S. troops now overseas will be returned home.—*Associated Press.*

Tokyo, Oct. 24.

The Ministry of Justice has suspended all Japanese production surveillance stations, by a decree issued to-day.

The police shadow-system has also been abolished.—*Associated Press.*

Tokyo, Oct. 24.

General MacArthur has announced that more than four hundred thousand soldiers in the Pacific are eligible for shipment home by November 1st.—*Associated Press.*

DEMOBILISATION OF VOLUNTEERS

DEMOBILISATION OF VOLUNTEER RANKS REMAINING IN HONG KONG IS COMMENCING AS FROM TO-DAY. THE ORDER APPLIES TO THE H.K.N.V.R. AS WELL AS TO THE H.K.V.D.C.

THE ORDER PROVIDES THAT THE LEAVE TO WHICH ALL RANKS ARE ENTITLED UNDER THE DEMOBILISATION PROCLAMATION, SHALL BE DEEMED TO HAVE COMMENCED AS FROM TO-DAY, OCTOBER 25, 1945.

A Balanced Answer

London, Oct. 24.

Mr. Dalton's budget was described by "The Times" this morning as a reasonably balanced answer to the nation's economic needs.

The "Daily Telegraph" agreed with this verdict on the interim budget, saying that the Chancellor had justified his assertion that he preferred moderation to zeal and realism to socialism.—*Reuter.*

Anti-Franco Activity

Madrid, Oct. 23.

For the first time under the Franco regime, pamphlets, considered seditious, have been distributed openly in front of scores of Civil Guards.

On Sunday afternoon, when the bull fight arena was jammed with spectators, distributors arose, flung handfuls of leaflets into the air and disappeared.

Many persons, catching the leaflets, thinking they were advertisements, scanned them and threw them down, afraid of being caught in possession of them.

Two points are causing speculation: firstly, though the pamphlets energetically advances the cause of a traditional monarchy, it fails to specify the candidate and secondly, the identity of those responsible for the distribution of the high quantities of printed leaflets.

It is understood that the leaflet is receiving widespread distribution clandestinely to-day throughout the city.—*Reuter.*

Asahi Swap

Tokyo, Oct. 24.

Officials of the newspaper "Asahi" bowed to-day to the demand of some 4,000 employees that they leave the editorial control to an employees' self-governing body.

They announced they were withdrawing to a status of proprietors and leave the editorial direction to the employees.

At the same time, the newspaper's president, Nagatsuma Murayama, said that during the war the government forced the paper to publish non-truths.

Doppel news agency reported the employees of Yomiuri would make demands similar to those made on "Asahi."—*Associated Press.*

NO COMPROMISE

London, Oct. 24.

Unable to reach a compromise, the United Nations' Executive Committee to-day voted down the Russian, Czech and Yiddish decision to have a Secretariat which would be responsible to the whole Organisation.

The vote was eleven to three.

The Executive Committee has approved the administrative plan for a system of Civil Service under which members of the staff of the United Nations would take a special oath of loyalty to the United Nations.—*Associated Press.*

JAPANESE SHOT DEAD

A Japanese internee was shot dead in the Whitehall Barracks yesterday, when he attempted to escape.

A sentry on duty saw the Japanese running out of the barracks. He shouted, but the internee continued to run. The sentry then opened fire and the shot passed through his left chest. He died in a few minutes.

The body was later removed to the Kowloon Mortuary.

JAPAN ON VERGE OF COLLAPSE

Tokyo, Oct. 24.

Japan's startlingly small supply of ammunition would have led to her defeat without the atomic bomb of Russian entry into the war, according to Colonel Robert Hall, 13th Corps Ordnance Officer.

The Japanese had only enough for a few days' fighting when they surrendered.—*Associated Press.*

Those personnel at present seconded to the naval and military authorities in Hong Kong, and Essential Services, and who are willing to continue such services on a temporary basis, will commence their leave on the above date, subject to the following conditions:

(a) For those who are not locally domiciled, i.e. eligible for repatriation to Hong Kong. They may continue to be seconded at their own wish, and they will receive their volunteer rates of pay and such pay as may be authorized by the Head of Department or Essential Services, for the period of such secondment; but for every day of such secondment, they will forfeit their leave as entitled under Article 6. Should their secondment cease before the expiry of their 98 days demobilization leave in Hong Kong and they are repatriated, they will then qualify for the extra period of leave as in Article 6, i.e. which will commence as from the date of disembarkation at their final destination. This will not affect repatriation eligibility from Hong Kong or return there.

LOCAL PERSONNEL.

(b) Locally domiciled personnel will qualify as in (a) above, but subject to the exigencies of the service, they will be granted at the discretion of the Head of Department or Essential Services, up to one month's local leave, with no pay, as these personnel will already have had double pay for the period of secondment. They will, however, be eligible for the cash benefit under Article 6 (2).

Those personnel who are eligible for repatriation and who have been permitted to remain for certain periods, on their own recognisance, and who are repatriated before the end of their 98 days leave, as in Article 6 (a) and (b), will also qualify for leave as in Article 6, i.e. providing their final destination before the end of their 98 days leave period.

PAY ADVANCES

(a) All personnel proceeding on leave, whether seconded or not, will be paid a proportion of their back pay due to them, and as soon as the currency situation permits, and final rates of pay and allowances are received from the Admiralty and War Office respectively, payment in full will be made.

(b) Seconded personnel, for the period of such secondment, will receive their pay at Volunteer rates and also the rate of pay as held down by the various departments and Essential Services to which they are now seconded.

PLACE OF LEAVE

Leave will normally be taken in Hong Kong, and only in special cases will permission be given to proceed to Macao or China. Applications to proceed to Hong Kong will be submitted direct to G.C. H.K.R.N.V.R. or Adjutant, H.K.V.D.C., respectively.

RATIONS

Rations in kind will be issued on Service entitlement, i.e. wives and children under 16 years of age. With effect from the commencement of leave, rations for other dependents will cease, but it is hoped to arrange for these to draw service rations on repayment, if they so wish.

RENTS

Further instructions with regard to rent allowances will be issued when received from the Admiralty and War Office, and until instructions are so received, those personnel living in non-Government quarters should submit bills for rent received to G.C. H.K.R.N.V.R. or Adjutant, H.K.V.D.C., respectively, before payment, for checking purposes. In this connection, all ranks are warned that rent allowances is normally small and that large premises are not allowable for junior paid ranks.

Detailed instructions to Heads of Departments and Controllers of Essential Services, etc., with regard to seconded personnel, will be issued by G.C.A.O. circular shortly.

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WM. POWELL & CO. LTD.

Will anyone who has knowledge of the whereabouts of any Records, Stocks, Furniture, Fittings and Equipment belonging to the above, kindly communicate with

Percy Smith, Seth & Fleming,
2nd floor, Windsor House,
Telephone 20700
Hongkong, 23rd October, 1945.

NOTICE

A meeting of the Officers' Christian Union will be held on Friday, October 26th, in the Gloucester Hotel. All wishing to be present please gather in the dining-room of the Officers' Club, Gloucester Hotel, about 4.15 p.m.

BRITISH MILITARY ADMINISTRATION, HONGKONG

Department of Imports & Exports

LIQUOR LICENCES

The issue of Dealers' and Retailers' Licences to persons dealing in Liquor will commence on October 26th 1945. These licences will be issued under the Dutiable Commodities Ordinance and will be issued to persons or firms occupying shops or other approved premises only. The licensee will be allowed to sell at the specified premises and not elsewhere. The stocks of persons found selling or exposing for sale without a licence will be seized.

Applicants for licences will be required to register and deposit two copies of his or her passport size photograph. Three days later (Sundays excluded) he will call again at the Imports & Exports Office and, if the licence has been approved, it will be issued on payment of the licence fee.

The Licence Fees are:

- Dealer's Licence:
- (a) For Liquor other than Chinese type liquor...\$1,000
 - (b) For Chinese type liquor
 - (i) in Victoria west of the Soo Koo Poo Nullah...\$650
 - (ii) in Victoria and areas east of the Soo Koo Poo Nullah, to the boundary of War Department land east of A Kung Ngam and in Aberdeen or Apichau...\$550
 - (iii) elsewhere in the Island of Hong Kong...\$400
 - (iv) in Kowloon and New Kowloon west of the railway as far as and including Shamshuipo...\$650
 - (v) in Kowloon and New Kowloon east of the railway as far as and including Kowloon City and Kai Tak...\$550
 - (vi) elsewhere in New Kowloon...\$400
 - (vii) elsewhere in the New Territories...\$25
 - (c) For liquor other than intoxicating liquor...\$20

Retailer's Licence:

- (a) For Chinese type liquor
- (i) in the Island of Hong Kong or in Apichau, Kowloon or New Kowloon...\$150
- (ii) elsewhere...\$25
- (b) For liquor other than intoxicating liquor
- (i) in Victoria or Kowloon South of Waterloo Rd. Gascoigne Road and Chatham Road...\$30
- (ii) elsewhere in the Island of Hong Kong or in Kowloon or New Kowloon...\$20
- (iii) in the New Territories except New Kowloon...\$10

The above licences entitle persons or firms to sell the type of liquor specified on the licence only. They are not entitled to operate a bar of any kind nor may they allow consumption of liquor sold on the premises. Any infringement of the conditions of a licence will lead to its immediate cancellation.

Applicants who hold licences issued in 1941 to deal in or retail liquor are requested to bring their old licences with them.

Owners of stills in or adjoining Chinese Liquor shops are hereby informed that stills will not be licensed on premises licensed for any other purpose under the Dutiable Commodities Ordinance. They must be removed before the issue of a dealer's licence.

H. A. TAYLOR

Superintendent of Imports & Exports
24th October, 1945.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The Bellios Public School will re-open on November 1st at the Northcote Training College, Bonham Road.
Registration for Standards 1-4 and Classes 5-8 will be on Monday 9-12 a.m. and 2-4 p.m. The fees will be as in 1941.

A. ST. G. WALTON;
A.D.C.A. (Education.)

NOTICE

The Manufacturers Life Insurance Company have reopened their offices in the same premises at 2nd Floor, Windsor House and are now able to accept premiums and transact general Life Insurance business. Office hours 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

E. J. B. Mitchell
Manager for South China

NOTICE

The whereabouts are required of a well-known Painting "BOY AND TOP," the property of Mr. Ernest Humphreys, which has been removed from his flat. Will any person having knowledge of the whereabouts of this Painting communicate with the undersigned.

WILKINSON & GRIST.

NOTICE

During the temporary absence of our Permanent Director Mr. D. O. Russell, we have appointed Mr. F. MEYER to be a Director of our firm.

W.R. LOXLEY & CO.
(CHINA) LTD.
D. O. RUSSELL
Permanent Director

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The management of the Yick Cheung Hong, owner of the m.v. Artemis, tenders its deep gratitude for assistance given by the British naval ships H.M.M.F.V. 1092 and H.M.M.F.V. 1158 and their commanding officers C. R. Tombs and M.O.G. Buxton and members of the Royal Navy in bringing the Artemis to safety after it was holed two miles west of the East Brothers Island after striking the funnel of the Ling Nan Maru wreck.

In particular the Company also wishes to thank His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, Rear-Admiral Cecil H. J. Harcourt who during his visit to Tai O on October 18th saw that the Artemis was in distress and immediately called for assistance from the Royal Navy resulting in the timely rescue of the Artemis.

The Company is grateful also for the despatch of a tug by the Harbour Master to tow the Artemis back to Hong Kong for repair.

We wish to thank also our friends who have shown their concern towards our recent mishap.

Yick Cheung Hong,
22, Connaught Road, West.

CIVIL AFFAIRS SERVICE

WORKS BRANCH

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Sub-Departments are now located as follows:
DD (CA) Works
CSO Bldg. Lower Albert Rd.
Water Authority
St. George's Bldg.
Port Works, Airport & Tunnel
St. George's Bldg.
Building Authority
Lands & Surveys
Roads, CSO Bldg. Lower Albert Rd.
Railways
Kowloon Railway Station Office

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RENTS CONTROL

The rents control proclamation, because it cuts across free relations between traditional opponents, landlords and tenants, will fall short, inevitably, of pleasing everybody. It remains nevertheless, a most valuable piece of legislation, fully comprehensive in its application, and admirably suited to meet the critically acute conditions prevailing. Only the special pleader could argue that it contains any large departure from simple equity. Rents are fixed upon the 1941 standard, which were high enough in all conscience. If a good case can be made out for a deviation from the standard, Tenancy Tribunals to be set up are empowered to authorise a new rate. The machinery for eviction is provided, the procedure being basically the same as in all similar ordinances. Notable departures from precedent are two. Sanctions are introduced, and the first serious attempt is made to deal with the age-old principal-tenancy racket. The only criticism that is likely to be made against the penalties contemplated is on the score of undue leniency. Six months' imprisonment or a fine of \$5,000 might well serve as substantial enough deterrents to infringement of the regulations if these maximums were treated by the Courts also as minimums. Past experience, and some recent experience of court penalties, gives little hope of vigorous enforcement on the highest scale. Failure to be firm in this case might well reduce the whole effort to futility. The attack on principal-tenant landlordism, on the other hand, will be greeted with unreserved enthusiasm. Past administrations have consistently shirked this issue, and it goes without saying that enforcement attempts will encounter stiff obstacles. Tight as Government has made the law, the scope for evasion is tremendous. Nevertheless, if only the worst features of this particular racket can be stamped out, or substantially modified, it will be a worthwhile achievement. Government may have taken a long time to get round to its rents control legislation, but on the result it earns congratulations.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY

With a free hand, a dearth of other forms of transport, and the disappearance of three-quarters of the sedan chairs that were available in 1941, the Colony's chair coolies have been reaping a bumper harvest. What precisely is meant by that Middle Level residents know to their cost. Up to a week ago, the situation was bad enough, a charge of \$5 for conveyance to Bowen Road, for instance, but it was not so bad as to arouse any vigorous public protest. Unfortunately, the coolies are not now content to be mere profiteers, but have been clubbing together to initiate a system which is tantamount to legalised highway robbery. Being overpaid, and getting their demands met without spirited resistance, has apparently furnished an incentive to increase the pressure, and fares now demanded, \$12 to \$15 for Bowen Road, are beyond all reason, even to those sympathetically disposed towards the chair-coolies. In the past, chair hire was subject to statutory fares. Omission of control has created a familiar situation, people acting foolishly because they do not realise that a line has to be drawn somewhere. A reminder seems essential, in the form of officially fixed charges.

THE NEXT WAR!

New York, Oct. 23. Doctor Urey, Head of the University of Chicago Institute of Nuclear Physics, and 1934 Nobel prize-winner, has predicted that atomic bombs will annihilate the principal cities of the world including those in the United States if another world war develops. Associated Press.

AGREEMENT BELIEVED NEAR
China's Political Council

CHUNGKING, OCT. 24. AN AGREEMENT ON THE COMPOSITION OF THE PROPOSED CHINESE POLITICAL CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL WHICH HAS BEEN ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL OBSTACLES IN RENEWED EFFORTS FOR A UNIFIED CHINA APPEARS TO BE NEAR. THE CHINESE PRESS SAYS THAT THE COUNCIL WOULD CONSIST OF SIX MEMBERS OF THE KUOMINTANG, SIX COMMUNISTS, TWELVE REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL OTHER PARTIES AND SIX PERSONS WITHOUT PARTY AFFILIATIONS.

"Thanks A Million"

"Thanks A Million," the revue which the Combined Services are staging at the Queen's Theatre next Tuesday evening in aid of the China Relief Fund, introduces to Hong Kong an interesting personality in its producer, S/Lt. Noel Brophy. Very early in the war Noel Brophy, then an ordinary seaman, was producing shows for the troops. In 1940 he acted in a service's show of "Rain" with Claire Luce and later was producing the Cyril Barker show in Alexandria and North Africa. During the desert campaign he took the show from El Alamein to Tripoli. General Montgomery and all the senior officers were at one time or another in the audiences. Virtually all the Eighth Army saw the Cyril Barker show which was the first to cater for the troops. "Sometimes our stage was a number of planks on ammunition boxes. Often we played to a score of men at a lonely gun sight. Air raids interrupted our shows. But it was great fun," S/Lt. Brophy told a reporter. Malta saw a Brophy production and then he went to Ceylon where he produced the grand show, Ian Hay's "Housemaster" with Wren and sailors. The show was played in Kandy and at all the service bases in Ceylon. Now S/Lt. Brophy, who does all his show business in his spare time is giving Hong Kong a taste of what the services can offer in the way of entertainment. "Thanks A Million" has a cast of 20. Tickets may be obtained at the booking office of the Queen's Theatre.

PUSHED OVERBOARD BUT GETS HIS MAN

Sentence of five years' hard labour was imposed on Wong Kwai, 20, fisherman, by Mr. Leo D'Almada at the Standing Military Court yesterday afternoon, when he was found guilty of robbery at Cheung Chau Island. The Court comprised Mr. Leo D'Almada, Mr. C. D'Almada and Mr. D. H. Blake. Mr. E. S. C. Brooks for the prosecution, and Mr. F. X. D'Almada represented the accused. Between 1 and 2 a.m. on September 22, Fung Sing, master of a junk No. H7749A, with his family, was on board a junk lying off Cheung Chau Ferry wharf. They were wakened by four Chinese, armed with hand grenades, who ordered him to sail out. Near Kiu Sha Breach, Fung was pushed overboard and his son followed him. They swam to a beach, and were later brought back to Cheung Chau. On September 23, Fung went to Tai O, where he saw his junk with accused in it. He then arrested him and handed him over to the Chinese guerrillas, who later handed him to the Police.

GIRLS REMANDED

Two girls, Yip Sau-ying, 19, and Yau Wai-tuen, 17, were before Mr. C. Y. Kwan at the Summary Military Court yesterday, charged with harbouring a Japanese at No. 2, Mosque Street. At the request of Sgt. Kriloff, the case was remanded until Friday.

BOY SCOUTS

The Colony Scout Commissioner, the Rev. N. V. Halward, is now in Hong Kong for a short visit. A gathering for all former and present members of the Association to meet him and to discuss future policy will be held on Saturday, at 2.30 p.m. in the Chinese Y.M.C.A., Bridges St., Hong Kong.

For stealing 860 books of cigarette papers from the British American Tobacco Co. Yuen Sing was fined \$100 or four weeks by Mr. C. Y. Kwan at the Summary Military Court yesterday. Accused was a god-son of the B.A.T.

Cheung Bing and Lam Chuen were both fined \$100 or four weeks for stealing books belonging to the Public Works Department, Lower Albert Road, on Tuesday.

Tram Smash

London, Oct. 24. Sixteen persons were injured, ten of them seriously, in a tramcar collision at Darnham Way, Lewisham, today. One tramcar was brought to a sudden halt and another following close behind crashed into it. — Reuter.

Dockers To Go Back

London, Oct. 23. The National Delegate Conference of Dockers in London today, representing dockers of all ports, passed a resolution urging immediate resumption of work. It pledged full support to ensure that there would be no victimisation. Another resolution was adopted declaring that the employers' offer could not be regarded as satisfactory, and authorised the negotiating committee to continue the discussions to find an acceptable basis of settlement. In the event of the negotiations proving abortive, it was decided to report to the Minister of Labour, requesting the Government to initiate immediate action to bring about a lasting settlement. It is hoped that work will be resumed not later than Friday. A N.A.A.F.I. official disclosed today that, as the result of the strike, some troops in Germany would go without cigarettes next week, and that the whole British Army of the Rhine will shortly be affected. — Reuter.

BRAZIL RUMOURS

New York, Oct. 24. Checking up by telephone from New York, persistent rumours of revolution in Brazil, similar to that in Venezuela were proved to be unfounded. Everything was reported to be quiet and normal in Rio de Janeiro. — Associated Press.

Washington, Oct. 23.

The Navy Department has announced the safety of Gunter Leonard Taylor, who had previously been reported as a prisoner of war. His wife resides in Manila. — Associated Press.

Guerilla Operation Charge Result

A 19-YEAR-OLD CHINESE, PUN FUK, WAS CHARGED AT THE STANDING MILITARY COURT YESTERDAY, WITH ROBBERY AND UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF ARMS.

The Court was composed of Mr. Leo D'Almada, president, Lieut.-Comdr. William Crawshaw Horrox and Lieut.-Comdr. Thomas Muir Sowerby.

Mr. E. S. C. Brooks, assisted by Sub-Inspector J. R. Sykes, was for the prosecution, while Mr. A. el Arculli appeared for the defence.

It was alleged that accused, with others not in custody, entered No. 85, Cumberland Road, the residence of Dr. Lam Kang-sang, and robbed him of \$3,000 in money, a wrist watch and ten wrist watch cases, and Mak To, concubine, of a gold finger ring. Dr. Lam was unwell on September 27, when two men and a woman visited the apartment and asked for an inoculation. Mak To told them that the doctor was sick and they left. At about 2.30 p.m. on September 29, the same group came again.

INVITED IN

They were invited into the house by Mak To, who went upstairs for some tea. When she came down, three other men had been admitted to the house, and one of them produced a revolver.

They said that they were here to search for arms. Two of the men took Mak up to her room, where they took \$3,000 from the dressing table drawer, and a gold ring from her finger. They then went into Dr. Lam's room, where he was ill in bed, and took his wrist watch, and ten wrist watch cases. The telephone was cut before they left.

Mak, accompanied by a Chinese detective identified accused at the Sun Ah Hotel, Nathan Road. In his possession, two of the stolen wrist watch cases were found, and \$200 in money.

GUERRILLA OPERATION

Accused, in evidence, said he was a member of the Chinese guerrilla force at Shumchun. He worked under Captain Pun Tin, who officially ordered him, with others to disarm Dr. Lam, who they alleged harboured arms.

Mr. Arculli, for the defence, submitted that there was no robbery in law, because there

was no evidence of threats or force against complainant.

After retiring for 15 minutes, the Court returned a verdict of not guilty and defendant was discharged.

TAO FONG SHAN RETREAT

ARRANGED BY THE REV. J. ARMSTRONG, SENIOR COMMAND CHAPLAIN, WHO IS SHORTLY LEAVING FOR HOME, A RETREAT FOR ARMY AND NAVY CHAPLAINS WAS HELD ON TUESDAY AT SHATIN.

The group assembled at the Christian Mission to Buddhists on Tao Fong Shan at 11 a.m. and were welcomed by Dr. Reichelt and his staff. A devotional meeting was held in the Chapel at which addresses were given by Bishop Hall and Dr. Reichelt.

After lunch, which was served in the Guest Hall, the visitors explored the monastery. For many this was their first visit to Tao Fong Shan and all were deeply impressed with the beauty of the surroundings, the quietness and the simple dignity of the buildings.

In the afternoon, Dr. Reichelt, speaking from his forty years' experience of work amongst Buddhists and Taoist priests, stressed the universality of the appeal of Jesus Christ.

His mission has been instrumental in the conversion of over one hundred priests who had gone back to work amongst their own people as missionaries, teachers or hospital evangelists. Dr. Reichelt expressed his gratitude that once again, after the war years, Tao Fong Shan could open its halls to Christian gatherings.

Tea was served at 4 p.m. in Pastor Hall's house and after passing a hearty vote of thanks to Dr. Reichelt and his fellow workers, the visitors reluctantly departed to their several billets. It is hoped that similar retreats may be held regularly at Tao Fong Shan.

The s.s. Shirrabank, departure of which has been several times delayed, is now expected to sail some time today. She will be carrying a few repatriates to Canada and the United States.

LABOUR'S FIRST BUDGET

Income Tax Cut By Shilling

LONDON, OCT. 24. IN A MOVE TO FREE OR RELIEVE THOSE EARNING LOW WAGES FROM INCOME TAX, THE NEW LABOUR GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED, THROUGH THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, MR. HUGH DALTON, CHANGES IN TAXATION IN ITS FIRST BUDGET, TO BECOME EFFECTIVE NEXT APRIL, AS FOLLOWS:

(1) A RETURN TO PRE-WAR ALLOWANCES WHICH WOULD MEAN THAT A SINGLE PERSON EARNING LESS THAN £2-7-0 AND A MARRIED COUPLE LESS THAN £3-17-0 WOULD GO UNTAXED.

Mr. Dalton said that this would cost the Government one hundred and sixty million pounds sterling.

(2) Reduction of one shilling in the present scale of fifty per cent on taxable income. This means that the standard rate is reduced to nine shillings.

(3) The establishment of a graduated tax scale. Under this plan, wage earners would pay three shillings in the pound on their first fifty pounds of taxable income and six shillings on the next twenty-five pounds. Under the war-time scale, the tax was at six shillings and sixpence on the first hundred and sixty-five pounds.

(4) Each increase in State income tax under the graduated scale is designed to make up for the one-shilling decrease in the standard rate.

BEER NO CHEAPER

Personal allowances are raised from eighty pounds to 100 pounds for a single man and from 140 pounds to 180 pounds for a married man.

Mr. Dalton expressed regret that he could not bring about a reduction in the prices of beer and tobacco and said that the time had not yet come when they could indulge in these things.

"I hope that the encouragement given by the tax reductions will lead to bigger production and, therefore, to a more abundant revenue," said Mr. Dalton.

With regard to the reconversion of British industry, Mr. Dalton announced that, effective on January 1st, the excess-profit tax would be reduced from one hundred per cent to sixty per cent.

He also said that he intended to speed up the twenty per cent refund on the war-time excess-profit tax, and also to abolish completely the purchase tax on a number of articles of special importance for building, including heating apparatus, plumbing equipment, refrigerators etc.—Associated Press.

FULLER NATIONAL LIFE

Dr. Dalton said that he had gone slow in tax relief owing to the danger of inflation, but by next April the picture would be clearer, and further proposals would be made.

"This is the first of a series of Budgets which, I hope, will clearly exhibit an ever-developing and ever-expanding plan for a fuller National life as we move forward together through what, I hope and believe, will be an historic Parliament," said the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Sidney Campbell, Reuter's City Editor, writes that the Budget proposals went further than had been generally anticipated. Wage-earners receive an incentive by the income-tax concessions, while industry gets a stimulus in the reduction of the Excess Profits Tax.

Fraser Wighton, Reuter's political correspondent, who watched the proceedings from the Parliamentary press gallery, writes that the crowded House sat spell-bound as Dr. Dalton delivered a financial exposition, which Members of all parties afterwards described as unique in its effort, less case and mastery of facts. All shades of political opinion think that the Budget will be popular with the public.

COST OF LIVING SUBSIDIES

Dr. Dalton said that he had decided to hold the present cost of living steady until further notice, even if this meant an increase in subsidies. He believed that in the near future price stabilisation would be even more important than during the war. These subsidies had been and were still a major factor in the aid to every household in the land, and had helped to restrain any disproportionate increases in wage rates, which might have disturbed the whole balance of Britain's economic life.

Last year, the cost of living subsidies cost the Exchequer about £200,000,000 a year. Now, with the cessation of Lend-Lease the country must reckon with subsidies costing £300,000,000.

Dr. Dalton's predecessor's estimates last April put total revenue for the year at £3,265,000,000 and expenditure at £3,565,000,000, leaving a deficit of £300,000,000 to be covered by borrowings. So far as could be seen, the yield would conform to the estimate, and the final deficit for the year 1945-1946 would not be far off the original estimate.

Dr. Dalton said that no sensible person would expect the presentation of a fully balanced budget next year. There would be increased expenditure, both to extend social services and to carry out a number of other constructive tasks. Family allowances would begin next year and increased Old Age pensions increased expenditure on housing and education and colonial development and welfare.

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QUISLING SHOT

London, Oct. 24. The Oslo Exchange Telegraph reported today that Vidkun Quisling was shot at 2.45 a.m. as a traitor to Norway. Quisling's name became a synonym for traitor after he became head of the Norwegian government under German occupation.—Associated Press.

Middle East Partnership

London, Oct. 23. Mr. Ernest Bevin, Foreign Minister, stated today that, so far as the Middle East and Egypt were concerned, we might be "on the eve of one of the greatest partnerships ever designed."

Speaking at the luncheon held today to signalise the gift by the Egyptian people of £100,000 towards the Alamein Club at Cairo, the Foreign Minister declared: "I hope we shall have behind for the idea of one country dominating another. You need us for your defence, for your technical ability, and for many other things. We need you equally."

"We must be associated, but I want that association to be, for the future, on an absolute equality and an absolute partnership, on a footing in which the term 'Anglo-Egyptian' means something to the world."—Reuter.

Turning to the proposals for the new financial year, Dr. Dalton said that the Excess Profits Tax refund must be put back into industry to replace old machinery.

Dr. Dalton said that next April he might be able to make further proposals regarding changes in taxation. He had gone deliberately slow because of inflationary risks. Every tax remission set free purchasing power for scarce goods. Reuter and Associated Press.

HANKOW IN TOUGH SPOT

Hankow, Oct. 24. With peanut oil liable to light Hankow by night while hungry Chinese residents are already burning the last scraps of wood, it will not be long before they start breaking doors for fuel.

This once flourishing inland port of China is plagued with a complete lack of coal, shortage of housing, inflation and disease.

The Chinese are working furiously repairing the extensive damage done by American bombings but the city awaits the cold winter, heatless, short of water and without electricity.—Associated Press.

WAGES INCREASE REFUSED

Pittsburg, Penn., Oct. 24. The United States Steel Corporation has turned down the demands of the Committee of Industrial Organisation for a general wage increase of two dollars daily.

The Corporation is unable to grant an increase at this time due to the existing ceiling prices and the government wage stabilisation policy.—Associated Press.

The C.I.O., which claims a membership of eight-hundred thousand members has called a meeting to authorise such actions as the situation may require.—Associated Press.

"SCOTLAND YARD"

with JOHN LODER
A 20th Century Fox Picture

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First Show in the Colony

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By Edmund Lowe, Victor McLaglen & Florence Rice
— Also —
Latest News Reels newly arrived from Europe

"HORROR OF GERMAN-INTERNATIONAL CAMP"

"RECORDING MODERN SCIENCE"
— NEXT CHANGE —
Rose of Washington Square

CHINA FLEET CLUB THEATRE

SHOWINGS ON THURSDAY AND SUNDAY AT 12.30
Admission, 50 Cents

"BRIDE BY MISTAKE"

Romantic Comedy, M.G.M.'s
with Loring Day & Alan Marshal
and Supporting Features
— NEXT CHANGE —

"HOLLYWOOD CANTEN"

Starring
Andrew Sisters, Eddie Cantor, Bebe Daniels, Barbara Stanwyck and Many Other Favorites.

LINING UP FOR CRIPPS

Liverpool, Oct. 23. Much satisfaction is expressed locally at the decision of the Master Cotton Spinners Association to give full support to the joint deputation of the Liverpool and Manchester Cotton Association which will visit the President of the Board of Trade on November 7th. It is felt that the three organisations should be able to present a very strong case for the re-opening of the Liverpool market as soon as the economic situation makes such course justifiable.

Meanwhile the President, Vice-President and leading members of the local association are preparing their case for presentation to Sir Stafford—Reuter.

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"SCOTLAND YARD"

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Romantic Comedy, M.G.M.'s
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and Supporting Features
— NEXT CHANGE —

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Original D-Day Boys.
Night raids on Germany. Field Marshal Eisenhower's welcome to the King on inspection of Western Front.
World's largest transport "Hawaii-Maru".

Russia's declaration of war on Japan.
Meeting of Pres. Roosevelt, Mr. Churchill and Marshal Chiang.
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United Kingdom, the British Empire, British possessions, protectorates and mandated territories, Egypt and the Sudan.	20 cents for the first ounce and 10 cents for each additional ounce or part of an ounce.	10 cents.	5 cents for each two ounces or part of two ounces.
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Insurance and Parcel Post not available for the present.
All previous postage rate notices are cancelled.

Truman Says U.S. Must Remain Strong

WASHINGTON, OCT. 24. PRESIDENT TRUMAN, IN A MESSAGE TO CONGRESS SAID THAT THE MILITARY PROGRAMME MIGHT BE THE BASIS OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY. THE PRESIDENT SAID THAT ALL YOUNG MEN, EXCEPT THOSE TOTALLY UNFIT PHYSICALLY SHOULD BE TRAINED FOR ONE YEAR IN ORDER TO BUILD UP A RESERVE BEHIND A SMALL PROFESSIONAL ARMY, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS AND TO STRENGTHEN THE NATIONAL GUARD.

Training should be special-ized, he said, in a separate organ-ization, with training subject to military duty only when chosen for selective service at the call of Congress.

Scientific developments must go ahead, no matter at what cost, but even the atomic bomb would have been useless without strong armed forces to capture bases within striking distance of the enemy.

President Truman urged prompt approval of the atomic bomb legislation "while the danger of it is still fresh in our minds—while we still remember how close we came to destruction four years ago—while we can vividly recall the horrors of invasion which our Allies suffered—while we can still see all ravages and ruin of the war."

The President said that only by strength can the United States impress aggressors. "We cannot tolerate any threat to liberty," he said.

The Chief Executive termed the United Nations Organization as a hopeful piece of machinery and said that America would live up to its pledges with all its might, but that she could not depend upon it to preserve peace.

DUAL POLICIES. To diplomatic authorities, the President's message appeared to reflect the distrust and suspicion now current among nations, particularly between Russia and the United States.

Both are now following dual foreign policies—preparing for peace through international co-operation and through their own independent power.

President Truman made it clear that an armaments race, perhaps without precedent, is now beginning because no nation has any real hope of security, except on its own strength. He stressed that the United States henceforth could not afford to get ready after the first blow struck, because the first blow will be at the country's heart.—Associated Press.

PARTIES MIXED. Congressional reaction to President Truman's military training recommendations found criticism and approval crossing

party lines. Several legislators favoured the principle of military training but thought that it could be done in schools and colleges.

One Senator read in the President's message a prelude to militarism in the United States, while another asserted that "it looks like people are more interested in getting the boys out of the war than getting them into the next one."

Some took exception to the President's message and said that his plan was not conscription. One thought the proposal was the best security against the United States becoming mili-tarist!—Associated Press.

RUSO-CHINESE NEGOTIATIONS

CHUNGKING, OCT. 24. Russia and China are negotiat-ing the question of allowing Chinese central government forces to land from the sea at Dairen and Port Arthur, authoritative quar-ters reported today.

(Thousands of Chinese 13th army troops are being loaded aboard American troop transports at Kowloon this week for move-ment to North China. Dairen is reported to be their destination. Three of the loaded transports left Hong Kong Tuesday and some are reported already proceeding north-ward).—Associated Press.

DUTCH HORROR JAIL ALLEGATION

BATAVIA, OCT. 24. A DUTCH "HORROR JAIL" IN BATAVIA WAS DESCRIBED ON TUESDAY NIGHT BY A BRITISH ARMY SPOKESMAN, WHO DECLARED AT A PRESS CON-FERENCE, THAT THERE WAS "MAL-ADMINISTRA-TION AND A COMPLETE LACK OF CARE."

Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Mel-sop compared the Dutch "jail" to the "Black Hole of Calcutta."

Melsop said that in the Nica Jail he found two-hundred and eight Indonesians accused, but not tried, of looting and rioting charges.

He asserted that the prisoners were inhumanly crowded into the cells, clothed in rags and given a starvation diet.

SICK ON SPOT. The British Officer said he was told he had been shown all the prisoners but later he found another prison building where "con-ditions were indecent and foul." Melsop said he became sick on the spot.

The prisoners are being taken to a British jail and those accused on minor charges will be released, Melsop said.—Associated Press.

Black Market In Japan

Tokyo, Oct. 24. The Minister of Welfare, Hitoshi Ashida, said to-day that the Japanese Government plans to negotiate with the U.N.R.R.A. in an attempt to obtain food to carry the country through the crucial Novem-ber and December months.

The Minister told the Asso-ciated Press that Japan fully recognises her own responsi-bility for feeding her people but that transportation and other distribution of harvested rice-crops until after January.

There are, in consequence, extensive black market opera-tions, which the authorities are doing their best to control. Sugar has now reached the fan-tastic price of thirty pounds sterling a pound and rice is he-ing sold at 22 shillings a pound.—Associated Press.

APPEAL TO RUSSIA

Paris, Oct. 24. An appeal to Russia to rejoin the I.L.O. was made at to-day's session of the International Labour Conference by Mr. Robert J. Watt, the American workers' delegate, who said: "Their membership in the I.L.O. could help their people and our people."

He added Americans were be-coming restless at discord among the Allies.

"We are having difficulty in understanding the motives of those who seem to demand that others should accept high-sounding pro-nouncements and should ignore high-handed pressure politics."—Reuter.

Channel Gale Increases

London, Oct. 24. The gale which struck the South Coast yesterday in-creased in violence to thirty miles an hour to-day. Huge seas lashed the coast from the South Foreland to Portsmouth, with 30 feet waves at Hastings. All cross-Channel services were suspended and liners from the Far East with repatri-ates were held up.

Titchfield, in Hants, was hit by a storm which whip-ped up to cyclonic force.—Reuter.

Annamite Psychology

SAIGON, OCT. 24. The French, who are seeking to put down the Annamite revolt in Indo-China, are more concerned with the native propaganda position rather than the lethal powers of bows and arrows as weapons of modern warfare for the Annamites have resorted to sniping with primitive weapons.

This is apparently a sharply devised campaign to win sympathy for their campaign for independ-ence.

A Gurkha rifleman was struck by an arrow from a crossbow in the Gopav area. He was closely observed but there was no indica-tion that the arrow had been poisoned.

Confiscated arrows also showed that the edges had not been dipped in poison.—Associated Press.

Washington, Oct. 24. President Truman has nominat-ed Brigadier-General Kenneth Royall, of North Carolina, who saw service in both world wars, as Under-Secretary for War.—Associated Press.

Soccer Strike Canvassed

MANCHESTER, OCT. 24. PROFESSIONAL SOCCER FOOTBALL PLAYERS TO-DAY BEGAN SAMPLING THE STRIKE SENTIMENT TO BACK DEMANDS FOR A BOOST IN THE PRESENT £4 WEEKLY PAY. AFTER CLUB OWNERS HAD, AFTER PENDING PAY-RISE CREASE DEMANDS, WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY REFUS-ING TO ACCEPT A SUBSIDY OF ONE THOUSAND POUNDS A YEAR OFFERED BY THE GAMBLING POOLS.

The players have asked for year-round contracts instead of the present six months.

The Unity pools offered funds when club owners pleaded their inability to pay high wages, agree-ing to turn over more as times improve by taking one per cent from the winners' pay-offs.

The idea was rejected when religious groups offered vigorous protests and promised to help get the 35 per cent tax reduced to nearer the 12 per cent paid on theatre tickets.—Associated Press.

OLYMPIC INVITATION

Chicago, Oct. 24. Russia, in the realm of athletics, may soon be forced to show her post-war hand, answering to the recent unprecedented invitation by the International Amateur Ath-letic Federation to the Soviet Union to join and participate in the 1948 Olympic games.

All nations were previously required to apply for participation, none were invited.

Russia withdrew from the Olympic games in 1912. A mail vote is now in progress to select the site for the 1948 games with Los Angeles, Minne-apolis, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Lausanne (Switzerland) and Lon-don as prospective locales.—Asso-ciated Press.

LOUIS REFEREES

Oakland, Calif., Oct. 24. The world's heavyweight boxing champion, Joe Louis, will make his first appearance in the ring since his army discharge on October 31st, when he will be refereed to a match here.—Asso-ciated Press.

New York, Oct. 24. Joey Lamotta, 155 lbs. of New York, was knocked out by Havana Gomez, 161 lbs. in the second round.—Associated Press.

RENT CONTROL PROCLAMATION

(Continued from Page 1)

commendations without necessarily amending the Proclamation.

It should be appreciated that the Proclamation is in the nature of an experiment and that the Administration hopes that the common-sense of the Tribunals and the public will make the experiment successful. There is bound to be some criticism. Con-structive criticism will be wel-come by the Committee who will endeavour to ascertain how far such criticism is well founded and to recommend a remedy.

Explanation of particular Ar-ticles.

Article 1. The definition of "premises" is deliberately wide as it is intended to cover all pre-mises rented including business, as well as residential premises.

NO SHOE MONEY.

Article 2 (a). The effect of this is that until rent is varied under Article 4, landlords commits an offence under Article 8, if he de-mands or receives more than the rent allowed under this Article.

The article does not affect any agreement between landlord and tenant in which the rent agreed is less than the rent mentioned in the Article. Any such agreement would hold good until a Tenancy Tribunal thought a case for varia-tion had been substantiated.

Where under agreement the rent is more than the rent mentioned in the Article then the landlord must content himself with the maximum permitted by that article until he obtains an order for in-crease under Article 4 of the Proclamation. In cases where there has been no agreement either because the parties are not in the relation of landlord and tenant or because there has been a failure to agree a rent expressed in Hongkong dollars, the rights of the parties are in abeyance until they arrive at a fresh agreement or the rent has been fixed by the Tribunal under Article 4. It should be appreciated that it is desirable for the parties to come to an agreement between them-selves.

GENUINE DOUBT.

There may be cases where the landlord is in genuine doubt as to the maximum rent which he can lawfully accept. In such cases he is advised to base his demands on no more than 6-1/4 times the last payment for house tax made to the Japanese converted into dollars at 4 to 1 as this figure would almost certainly represent less than the permissible maximum. Any agreement arrived at between the parties provided it did not conflict with Article 1 would be respected by the Tribunal and the delay of proceedings would be avoided. If, however, the parties cannot come to the terms then the tenant is advised to pay on ac-count what he considers a fair rent pending settlement by the Tribunal on the footing that if the rent fixed by the Tribunal were less, the balance should be refunded and if it were more, the tenant should pay the excess.

In case where premises were let to one tenant prior to Decem-ber 1941, but have since been let to several tenants, the landlord cannot charge as rent in respect of the premises now separately let a total sum greater than the rent payable by the tenant prior to December 1941. He should apportion the rent to be paid by each separate tenant and in case of disagreement, he can apply to the Tribunal for apportionment under Article 4.

SUB-TENANCIES.

Article 2 (b). This is to pre-vent a principal tenant from charging against his sub-tenant more than 20 per cent over the rent payable by him to his land-lord. He is of course entitled to charge a fair proportion of the payment by him for water rates, electric light charges, removal of night-soil fees. Suppose he rents a floor for \$100.00 and he sub-lets a half portion, and occupies the other half, then the rent which he is entitled to receive from his sub-tenant is \$50.00.

Article 2 (c). This is to enable the sub-tenant to know whether the rent payable by him is a fair pro-portion of the rent which he should pay. If he is dissatisfied, he can apply to the Tribunal for apportionment.

Article 4. While it is considered that the rent payable for Decem-ber 1941, should be the standard, it is realised that there may be cases in which the landlord should be permitted to receive a higher and cases in which the tenant should be permitted to pay a lower rent. Tribunals will be con-stituted for this purpose.

Article 5 (1) (a). This is to enable an owner to apply to the Tribunal for an order for evic-tion of an occupier of premises without the consent of the land-lord, and who had paid no rent.

Article 5 (1) (b). A person, who occupied premises during the Japanese occupation without the consent of the owner or his pro-cessor in title, and who although paid rent during the occupation, is liable to be evicted unless rent has been paid since the establish-ment of the British Military Ad-ministration.

DEFAULTS IN PAYMENT.

Article 5 (1) (c). This is to enable a landlord to recover pos-session where his tenant makes default for more than 30 days in payment of rent due in respect of October, 1945 and future rent. This date has been selected be-cause in September rents were

payable in Yen and it was con-sidered that the 1st of October was therefore the earliest date which would reasonably be fixed.

Article 7. It is proposed to establish 5 Tribunals—3 for Hong-kong and 2 for Kowloon. Each Tribunal will consist of 3 members. The practice, procedure and rules of evidence to be observed in such Tribunal will be announced in due course, but it may be stated that the proceedings will be conducted as informally as possible. Parties will be able to appear before the Tribunal without an advocate. They can be represented by ad-vocates if they so desire, but no order for legal costs will be made at the hearing before the Tribunal. On appeal, however, costs of the appeal may be awarded but it is hoped to provide free legal aid on appeal in deserving cases. In addition reasonable fees will be prescribed to cover the cost of forms, etc., and experts' fees and generally the expenses of the Tri-bunal.

SERIOUS SITUATION.

Article 8. Although questions between landlords and tenants are purely civil matters, certain acts and omissions of landlords and tenants as specified in this Article are made punishable offences be-cause without such sanction the objects of the Proclamation would be defeated and it is considered that the situation is sufficiently serious and urgent to warrant such course.

The difficult question of a tenant transferring his interest for a premium has not been dealt with by the Proclamation but it is understood this is one of the questions about which the Com-mittee will be expected to submit recommendations.

CYPRUS INCIDENT.

London, Oct. 24. The Labour member for Ham-mer-smith asked the Secretary for War, Mr. Lawson, in the House of Commons whether he had any statement to make about incidents in Cyprus on October 4, when Indian troops were set to fight Cypriot troops and whether, in view of the effect on Indian and Cypriot public opinion of these bodies of troops being set to fight against each other after fighting together against Fascism in war, he would take steps to avoid fur-ther incidents by remedying grievances of Cypriot troops.

Mr. Lawson replied that in re-cent weeks there had been a series of minor disturbances among Cypriot troops awaiting embarkation for foreign service after hav-ing had home leave.

Demonstrations had been for the expedition of demobilisation and against further service overseas. Incidents had been involved and a full inquiry as to the nature and causes was being made.—Reuter.

SACRAMENTO FIRE.

Sacramento, Calif., Oct. 24. It is estimated that more than one hundred thousand dollars worth of damage was caused as a result of a fire which swept a Japanese owned building last night. The authorities thought that the blaze might have been in-cendiary. During the war the building was used as a repair plant for government diesel motor trucks.—Associated Press.

Oakland, Calif., Oct. 24. Mr. Frank Belgrano Junior, President of the Bank of Oakland, plans to leave next week by plane for Manila where he will become financial secretary to the United States High Commissioner in the Philippines, Mr. Paul McNutt.—Associated Press.

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RADIO

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25th, 1945.

2BW HONGKONG Broadcasting on Frequencies of 690 Kilocycles and from 12.30 to 1.30 p.m., 0.80 to 1.30 p.m. and 9.00 to 10.30 p.m. on 9.47 Megacycles.

H. K. T.

12.30 p.m.—Compositions of Strauss.

1.00 p.m.—News & Announcements.

1.10 p.m.—"Irish" Hall Hour.

1.40 p.m.—Gerald & His Orchestra.

2.00 p.m.—Close Down.

2.30 p.m.—Musical Comedy Selections.

7.00 p.m.—News & Announcements.

7.10 p.m.—Studio—Hal Lammie at the Piano.

7.40 p.m.—Songs by Nelson Eddy (Radio).

8.00 p.m.—Dance Music Programme.

9.00 p.m.—News & Announcements.

9.10 p.m.—Studio—Talk by Lt. Sato, R.N.—"The British Pacific Fleet."

9.25 p.m.—Orion—"Post Gyn" Suite.

9.40 p.m.—Maureen Winnick and His Orchestra.

10.00 p.m.—News from London.

10.05 p.m.—Dance Music.

10.09 p.m.—Close Down.

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